

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

Foreign Crops and MARKETS



VOLUME 55

NUMBER 18

WORLD SUMMARIES IN THIS ISSUE:

Hog Slaughterings in Specified Countries (Page 292)

Filbert Production (Page 289)

Coffee Production (Page 290)

L A T E N E W S (Page 288)

CONTENTS

Page

FOR RELEASE

MONDAY

NOVEMBER 3 1947

COTTON

Cotton-Price Quotations on Foreign Markets..... 301

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Uruguay Buys Wheat From Argentina..... 306

FATS AND OILS

Malayan Copra Industry Exceeds Expectations..... 302

FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND NUTS

World Filbert Production Estimate Larger..... 289

Exports of Cuban Grapefruit and Avocados to

United States..... 298

July-August Orange Exports Exceed Million Boxes.. 299

British Columbia Ships 811 Cars of Apples to

United States..... 300

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

Philippine Rice Prices Quoted..... 297

Spain's Rice Crop Prospects Good..... 297

Malaya Increases Rice Acreage..... 298

Turkey's Rice Harvest Shows Gain..... 298

Canada Removes Coarse Grain Price Ceilings..... 300

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

Hog Slaughterings in Specified Countries..... 292

Canada Relaxes Regulations Affecting Livestock

Industry..... 300

TOBACCO

Flue-Cured Crops up in South Africa..... 295

Turkey Harvests Another Large Tobacco Crop..... 297

TROPICAL PRODUCTS

World Coffee Production Increasing..... 290

Issued by the OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

L A T E N E W S

Poland's Ministry of Industry and Trade has taken over 16 potato processing firms, and new factories with an annual capacity of 1 million tons of potatoes have been built, according to a Polish press statement. Production during the 1947-48 season is expected to reach 20,000 tons of potato flour, 6,000 tons of syrup, 2,000 tons of dextrin, 1,200 tons of glue and 250 tons of artificial honey. After supplying domestic demands, it is said that an estimated 3,500 tons of potato flour and 500 tons of dextrin will be available for export.

- - - -

The Polish newspaper Dziennik Polski has reported that the U.S.S.R. will deliver to Czechoslovakia 120,000 tons of wheat, 30,000 tons of rye, 20,000 tons of oats and a large quantity of corn in accordance with an agreement concluded in Moscow.

- - - -

A current downward trend in Argentine crop sowings was further confirmed during the past month by the issuance of the third estimate of the area in wheat and by the second estimate of plantings of oats, barley, rye, and linseed. Whereas the initial figures on wheat and linseed had indicated reductions of 13 and 10 percent, respectively, compared with last year, the more recent figures showed decreases of 17.3 and 14.8 percent respectively. According to the second estimate for oats, barley and rye, sowings of these crops are down by about 12.7, 15 and 6.4 percent, respectively.

- - - -

The Czechoslovak Press Bureau reports that under a trade agreement between Czechoslovakia and Palestine, the latter will send 220,000 cases of oranges, 250,000 cases of lemons and 30,000 cases of grapefruit to Czechoslovakia before the end of November.

- - - -

WORLD FILBERT PRODUCTION ESTIMATE LARGER 1/

The 1947 preliminary estimate of filbert production in Italy, Spain, Turkey, and the United States, the leading commercial producing countries, is 114,100 short tons, unshelled basis, compared with 164,450 tons in 1946 (revised) and 72,000 tons in 1945.

The estimate exceeds the 5-year (1941-45) average of 94,660 tons by 21 percent and the 10-year (1936-45) average of 102,500 tons by 11 percent. The final outturn checks on the 1946 harvest indicate that it was even larger than the most optimistic estimates made during the season and that it was an all-time high. This season's estimates show only the United States with an all-time high production, while Italy's crop is one of the poorest ever reported. Spain's crop is the largest in some time, while Turkey reports a better-than-average tonnage.

Growing conditions, reviewed briefly, were not unduly adverse in these countries. The trees, however, appeared to have been exhausted from the huge output of last year and the lack of sufficient fertilizer. In Spain, some loss was reported early in the season because of the lack of soil moisture; then, just prior to harvest, excessive rain caused further loss. Some growers and members of the trade feel a near-record crop would have been harvested had the weather been better. The quality of this year's nuts is good but runs to small size kernels. Insect damage to Sicily's very small crop is reported as heavier than usual.

Turkey is the only country which did not report a carry-over from the 1946 harvest. Its entire crop had been disposed of before new-crop nuts came to market, mostly in export channels. Italy and Spain are estimated to have 6,100 and 7,300 tons, unshelled basis, respectively, still on hand from the previous harvest. The carry-over in the United States was small and mostly in second hands. The bulk of the carry-over in Italy and Spain probably will find domestic outlets and will not enter export channels.

The 1946-47 export season for Turkey on a tonnage basis was one of the best on record while Italy and Spain had poor seasons. The price of filberts in these countries was too high to attract much business. The domestic demand in Italy for oil crushing was very good and absorbed a large part of the record crop. The United States, even though importing a large tonnage, made some export shipments.

The outlook for the 1947-48 export season presents in some respects the same situation that prevailed last year. The price of Turkish filberts is again the most attractive, while that of the other countries is too high. Italy will have the smallest exportable supply in many years but the demand for filberts for oil crushing will likewise be smaller, if not a thing of the past. The continued food shortage will provide an outlet for most of the crop. Most Italian trade members are not expecting a large volume of exports this season.

1/ A more extensive statement can be obtained from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

WORLD COFFEE PRODUCTION INCREASING

World coffee production for the crop year 1947-48 is forecast at 40 million bags which compares with 37 million bags last season and the pre-war average of 43.1 million bags. Exportable production from the 1947-48 crop, placed at 31 million bags, is 2.5 million bags more than for 1946-47.

America. Exportable production in the American producing countries shows an increase of almost 3 million bags in comparison with 1946-47 which accounts for the larger forecasted world outturn. Most of the increase occurs in Brazil and Colombia. Output in the other American producing countries shows small fluctuations but the total exportable production is only slightly larger than last year.

In June the National Coffee Department (DNC) estimated the 1947-48 exportable Brazilian crop at 16.7 million bags, which would be the largest since 1940-41. Although there have been rumors of rain and insect damage, this estimate has not been changed. Larger Brazilian coffee crops since 1944-45, when a low of 8.2 million bags were produced for export, are believed due to more favorable weather conditions and not to new trees coming into production.

Latest statistics indicate that Brazil's total tree population is declining. According to the DNC, there were 2,091 million trees in 1946 compared with 2,234 million in 1942 and 2,978 million in 1933. Complete data on new plantings are not available, but it is unlikely that any large-scale plantings were made during the period when United States ceiling prices were in effect. Plantings made since then cannot influence the supply picture for several years. Current remunerative coffee prices, however, encourage growers to take better care of their trees and to harvest the crop more closely.

Coffee production in Colombia has increased steadily in recent years. Last year's crop was about 1 million bags larger than the crop of the previous year. With favorable weather, a further increase seems likely in 1947-48. Tree population in Colombia is estimated at 949 million, of which about 14 percent are not yet in full bearing. New trees coming into bearing are believed to be an important factor in Colombia's increased production.

Exportable production from El Salvador's 1947-48 crop is expected to equal that of last year or 920,000 bags. Weather conditions for the current crop have been favorable and yields from early pickings promising. The 1947-48 exportable production in Guatemala may fall slightly below last year's outturn of 900,000 bags, although the general outlook for increased production is favorable. About 15 percent of Guatemala's coffee trees, estimated at 139 million, are not yet in bearing. Total coffee production in Mexico is increasing but large domestic consumption requirements are expected to limit exportable production from the current crop to about 600,000 bags. Drought has resulted in a smaller 1947-48 coffee crop for the Dominican Republic. Production in Venezuela is believed to be increasing somewhat although little definite information on the industry is available. Venezuelan exportable production for the current year, forecast at 600,000 bags, may prove too optimistic.

COFFEE: Estimated total and exportable production in specified countries.
average 1935/36 - 1939/40. annual 1945/46 - 1947/48

Continent and Country	Average		1945-46		1946-47 a/		Forecast	
	1935/36 - 1939/40		1945-46		1946-47 a/		1947-48 a/	
	Total	Exportable	Total	Exportable	Total	Exportable	Total	Exportable
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags
America								
Costa Rica	390	330	265	205	355	305	450	400
El Salvador	1,091	1,011	863	748	1,035	920	1,035	920
Guatemala	1,002	922	1,012	812	1,130	900	1,080	850
Honduras	100	27	140	30	160	50	165	55
Mexico	959	609	950	550	925	525	1,000	565
Nicaragua	230	253	225	180	230	180	250	200
Cuba	425	58	382	0	589	0	600	b/
Dominican Republic	347	222	255	105	325	175	285	135
Haiti	538	438	595	400	595	400	560	365
Brazil	26,938	22,638	17,571	12,200	19,934	14,563	22,062	16,687
Colombia	4,452	4,202	5,478	5,051	6,500	6,040	6,963	6,500
Ecuador	c/ 268	223	230	185	170	120	230	180
Peru	80	47	100	50	84	15	90	b/
Venezuela	940	740	750	500	800	550	850	600
Total d/	38,116	31,900	29,005	21,096	33,050	24,788	35,820	27,493
Africa								
Belgian Congo	320	300	425	400	490	465	500	475
British East Africa	850	775	822	740	850	775	900	825
Ethiopia	263	263	257	257	300	300	250	250
French W. Africa	207	207	585	585	650	650	675	675
Madagascar	537	437	425	317	500	392	440	332
Angola	300	273	483	380	883	783	776	676
Total e/	2,537	2,315	3,077	2,759	3,873	3,555	3,761	3,443
Asia								
Yemen	130	76	133	83	150	100	150	100
India	278	155	305	50	323	65	275	15
Netherlands Indies	1,961	1,356	f/	f/	f/	f/	f/	f/
Total g/	2,444	1,647	438	133	473	165	425	115
Oceania h/	101	53	75	30	80	30	80	30
World total	43,198	35,915	32,595	24,018	37,476	28,538	40,086	31,081

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Compiled or estimated from International Yearbook of Agricultural Statistics, official reports, and reports of United States foreign service officers.

NOTE: Production given according to the crop years of the various countries.

a/ Preliminary.

b/ Exports prohibited by law.

c/ Average for years 1936-37 to 1939-40.

d/ Adjusted to include allowance for Guadeloupe, Puerto Rico, Surinam, British West Indies, and Panama Republic.

e/ Total adjusted to include allowances for French Cameroons, French Equatorial Africa, San Thome and Principe, British West Africa, Liberia, and Spanish Africa.

f/ Not available.

g/ Total adjusted to include allowances for Indo-China, Ceylon, Philippines and Timor.

h/ Includes Hawaii, New Caledonia, and New Hebrides.

HOG SLAUGHTERINGS IN SPECIFIED COUNTRIES,
PRELIMINARY 1947 and PROSPECTIVE 1948

Commercial or inspected hog slaughter in the United States and in other specified countries for 1948 is not expected to reach the 1947 level, according to reports summarized by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prospective slaughter increases for 1948 in Argentina, Brazil and in the chief supplying countries of the United Kingdom, the principal importer, probably will not be adequate to offset the indicated decrease anticipated in the United States. A generally improved feed situation and increased breedings in Argentina, Brazil, Australia, and New Zealand may be expected to increase hog numbers in those countries.

The 1947 commercial and inspected slaughter of these countries was somewhat larger than in 1946 and reached the prewar level. The largest increase occurred in the United States and moderate increases were reported, principally in western European countries and the Union of South Africa. These increases more than offset the decreases which took place in the United Kingdom, South American countries, Canada and the Southern Dominions of Australia and New Zealand.

Hog slaughter in the European countries is still less than one-half and Australia and New Zealand are about three-fourths of prewar, while United States, South American countries and the Union of South Africa are considerably above prewar. Under more favorable weather, crop and economic conditions, the countries that are now below prewar levels can be expected to again attempt to reach their former slaughter levels.

Unfavorable weather and crop conditions in several of these countries during 1947 have limited and in many countries seriously reduced the available feeds required for the maintenance and increase of hog numbers. In view of such a feed position, most of the affected countries, because of reduced domestic supplies and the improbability of obtaining imports of feed grains, have been compelled to curtail their breedings. This will be reflected in reduced slaughterings not only in 1948, but to some extent in 1949.

Other conditions, mostly economic, can be expected to affect future slaughter in most of the European countries in this group. Foremost of these is the availability of foreign exchange, particularly if and when feed grains become available for importing countries. Another is the relation of production costs to prices obtained by the producers which frequently brings about competition between various farm enterprises.

The present critical food situation in Europe requires that all possible cereal and coarse grains be made available to meet human needs. Obviously, such a program means a reduction in feed grains for hogs which will hold numbers to relatively low levels and delay restoration to prewar levels.

The United Kingdom, the principal importer of pork and pork products, may have a smaller quantity of supplies to draw from in 1948 than was the case in 1947. While larger quantities are expected to be available from the Dominions and South America, where 1948 slaughter is likely to be larger, the reduction in quantities of supplies available from other sources, principally

HOGS: Slaughter (commercial or inspected) in specified countries,
calendar year, average 1934-38, annual 1945-48

Continent and Country	Average 1934-38	1945	1946	Preliminary 1947	Indicated 1948
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
North America					
Canada <u>a/</u>	3,239	5,682	4,240	4,000	4,500
Mexico <u>a/</u>	855	989	1,070	1,170	1,170
United States -					
Inspected	34,673	40,960	44,394	48,000	46,000
Total	57,229	68,511	76,244	75,000	72,000
Caribbean:					
Cuba <u>b/</u>	148	123	121	135	135
Europe					
Austria <u>c/</u>	-	-	633	1,050	1,050
Belgium <u>c/</u>	1,949	363	568	840	650
Bulgaria <u>b/</u>	134	119	24	-	-
Czechoslovakia <u>d/</u>	<u>e/</u> 3,644	1,550	1,736	2,275	2,500
Denmark <u>b/</u>	4,355	1,740	2,043	2,000	2,000
Eire (Ireland) <u>b/</u>	<u>f/</u> <u>g/</u> 1,119	357	467	475	450
Finland <u>a/</u>	<u>h/</u> 216	-	-	-	-
Germany-U.S. zone only <u>b/</u>	<u>g/</u> 2,160	-	150	200	-
Hungary <u>b/</u>	1,434	-	-	-	-
Netherlands. <u>c/</u>	2,133	837	380	1,040	1,000
Norway <u>a/</u>	333	11	28	30	-
Portugal <u>a/</u>	225	278	210	225	225
Rumania <u>b/</u>	792	-	-	-	-
Sweden <u>b/</u>	1,396	964	1,054	1,050	1,150
Switzerland <u>a/</u>	793	263	-	-	-
United Kingdom <u>b/</u> <u>i/</u>	<u>g/</u> 5,633	1,648	1,435	1,000	1,000
Yugoslavia <u>b/</u>	661	-	-	-	-
Asia:					
Japan proper <u>b/</u>	1,150	40	60	100	150
Philippine Islands <u>b/</u>	795	-	-	-	-
South America					
Argentina <u>b/</u>	1,240	3,408	2,225	1,675	2,500
Brazil <u>b/</u>	2,960	5,220	4,500	3,750	3,800
Colombia <u>b/</u>	594	577	665	580	605

(Continued on next page)

HOGS: (Continued)

Continent and Country	Average : 1934-38	1945	1946	Preliminary: : 1947	Indicated : 1948
	: Thousands	: Thousands	: Thousands	: Thousands	: Thousands
Africa					
Union of So. Africa					
<u>b/</u>	: 251	: 598	: 499	: 520	: 585
Oceania					
Australia <u>b/</u>	: <u>f/</u> 1,912	: 1,800	: 1,602	: 1,450	: 1,650
New Zealand <u>f/</u>	: <u>j/</u> 968	: 655	: 631	: 620	: 675

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated from official statistics, United States foreign service reports, and other information. Data relate to prewar boundaries, unless otherwise noted.

a/ Inspected slaughter. b/ Commercial slaughter. c/ Total official slaughter.
d/ Present territory - excludes Sub-Carpathian Russia. e/ Year 1936 only. f/
 Year beginning June 1 for Eire, July 1 for Australia, and October 1 of preceding
 year for New Zealand. g/ Four-year average only. h/ Three-year average only.
i/ Great Britain only. j/ Two-year average only.

(Continued on Page 303)

WORLD FILBERT PRODUCTION ESTIMATE LARGER
 (continued from page 289)

In Spain exports have been restricted by high domestic prices. The Spanish trade, fully aware of their high prices, are trying to work out some sort of an arrangement with the Government to effect exports but to date nothing definite has been announced. In the Mediterranean Basin countries some barter deals may be worked out which will move some of this year's filberts but to date no reports of actual transactions have been reported.

FILBERTS, UNSHELLED: Estimated production in specified countries
 1947 with comparisons
 (Foreign production rounded to nearest 100 short tons)

Year	Italy	Spain	Turkey	Mediterranean Basin total	United States unshelled:	World total
	: Short tons	: Short tons	: Short tons	: Short tons	: Short tons	: Short tons
Average						
1941-45	: 16,400	: 22,900	: 49,600	: 88,900	: 5,760	: 94,660
1936-45	: 20,400	: 24,600	: 53,200	: 98,200	: 4,300	: 102,500
Annual						
1945	: 15,700	: 18,000	: 33,000	: 66,700	: 5,300	: 72,000
1946 <u>a/</u>	: 47,800	: 18,200	: <u>b/</u> 90,000	: <u>b/</u> 156,000	: 8,450	: <u>b/</u> 164,450
1947 <u>a/</u>	: <u>b/</u> 9,900	: 35,200	: <u>b/</u> 60,500	: <u>b/</u> 105,600	: <u>b/</u> 8,500	: <u>b/</u> 114,100

Compiled from trade and official sources. a/ Preliminary. b/ Revised.

UNITED STATES: Imports for consumption of shelled and unshelled filberts from specified countries, 1946-47, with comparisons

Year a/	Italy	Spain	Turkey	Other countries	Total
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
<u>SHELLED</u>					
Average -					
1942-1946	62	352	2,437	37	2,888
1937-1946	93	201	1,492	36	1,822
Annual -					
1942-43	0	0	27	0	27
1943-44	0	559	17	0	576
1944-45	0	1,191	2,989	0	4,180
1945-46	178	6	4,231	180	4,595
1946-47	133	1	4,921	5	5,060
<u>UNSHELLED</u>					
Average -					
1942-1946	392	62	2	0	456
1937-1946	318	32	1	1	352
Annual -					
1942-43	0	0	0	0	0
1943-44	0	6	0	0	6
1944-45	0	16	0	0	16
1945-46	361	220	8	0	589
1946-47	1,600	69	0	6	1,669

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

a/ Crop-year basis, September-August.

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

TOBACCO

FLUE-CURED CROPS UP IN SOUTH AFRICA

Flue-cured tobacco production for 1946-47 in the four South African countries of Southern Rhodesia, Union of South Africa, Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland -- totaled 73 million pounds. This represents an increase of 20 percent above the 1945-46 outturn of 61 million pounds, and was nearly 40 percent greater than average production of 53 million during the 5 seasons 1940-41 through 1944-45.

It is still too early to forecast accurately the 1947-48 crops of flue-cured leaf. According to reports, however, some increase in flue-cured acreages are expected, and total production for the four countries in 1947-48

may exceed 80 million pounds. Record crops probably will be harvested in both Southern Rhodesia and the Union. Demand from the United Kingdom, and Empire countries will tend to encourage production, but on the other hand, shortages of labor, fertilizers, and other materials, may act as restrictive factors.

SOUTHERN AFRICA: Production of flue-cured tobacco, average 1940-41 to 1944-45, 1945-46 and 1946-47

Country	Average		
	1940-41	1945-46	1946-47 <u>a/</u>
	to 1944-45		
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Southern Rhodesia	38,128	41,740	55,000
Union of South Africa	9,927	13,774	12,982
Northern Rhodesia	2,366	2,823	2,929
Nyasaland	2,695	2,586	<u>b/</u> 2,500
	53,116	60,923	73,411

a/ Preliminary. b/ Estimated.

Official sources and Consular reports.

In Southern Rhodesia, the 1946-47 crop of flue-cured leaf amounted to 55 million pounds, from 91,800 acres, compared with the previous crop of 41.7 million pounds from 74,420 acres. The 1946-47 yield per acre was only 600 pounds, compared with well over 1,000 pounds in the United States and Canada. Up to October 3, total auction sales amounted to 54 million pounds, at an average price of 50 cents per pound. Early-season prices averaged about 73 cents, but the temporary withdrawal of British buyers from the auction floors brought on a considerable decline.

A trade journal has forecast the 1947-48 flue-cured crop in Southern Rhodesia at about 60 million pounds. This figure may not be achieved, however, in view of the scarcity of labor and rising wages. There are definite shortages of fertilizers and other necessary materials. In view of these factors, it is unlikely there will be any substantial increase in the 1947-48 acreage.

Exports of flue-cured from Southern Rhodesia during the marketing year April 1946- March 1947 totaled 34 million pounds. Of this total, the United Kingdom took 19 million pounds; and other Empire countries 6.3 million. About 3.3 million pounds were destined to Egypt. Other countries imported 5.4 million pounds. For the first four months of the current marketing season (April-July) exports were 11.2 million pounds, of which the United Kingdom took 7.4 million.

The flue-cured crop in the Union of South Africa for 1946-47 amounted to 13 million pounds -- somewhat less than the previous harvest. For 1947-48, a crop of nearly 21 million pounds is forecast. The Union imports

far more flue-cured than is exported. In 1946, a total of 5.7 million pounds was imported, including nearly 500,000 pounds from the United States. Southern Rhodesia is the principal source of supply. The duty-free quota for imports from Southern Rhodesia for the 1947-48 season has been fixed at 5 million pounds.

The 1945-47 flue-cured crops in Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland aggregated not more than 5.5 million pounds. No substantial increases in 1947-48 plantings are anticipated. Although the United Kingdom is attempting to encourage flue-cured production within these countries, it is difficult to foresee any great increase in the harvests. Low yields, shortages of trained labor, and high production costs, will probably act to limit flue-cured production in all these South African countries.

TURKEY HARVESTS ANOTHER LARGE TOBACCO CROP

Preliminary estimates place Turkey's 1947 tobacco crop at about 200 million pounds, or about the same as the 1946 production. Final estimates will become available when the market opens in early 1948. These past two crops were extremely large - about 50 percent above the prewar average.

The large quantities of leaf available for export, and the limited market possibilities, are causing growers and the Turkish Government much concern. Compensation agreements are being negotiated with several European countries, including Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland, through which Turkish leaf would be supplied to those countries in exchange for manufactured articles. Recent sales to the Italian Monopoly are said to have totaled about 2 million pounds.

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

PHILIPPINE RICE PRICES QUOTED

Little change occurred in Philippine rice prices from mid-September to October. During the week ended October 3, Milled No. 1 Macan ranged from \$9.72 to \$10.12 per 100 pounds, compared with \$8.71 to \$10.12 during the week ended September 19. Milled No. 2 Macan was \$8.91 to \$9.72 per 100 pounds, compared with \$8.10 to \$9.72 two weeks earlier. Rough rice prices to producers, delivered Canabanutuan, were \$5.54 to \$5.80 per 100 pounds, compared with \$5.29 to \$5.80 in mid-September.

SPAIN'S RICE CROP PROSPECTS GOOD

The 1947 rice production of Spain is forecast at 12,050,000 bushels (350 million pounds milled), a 20-percent increase over the estimate of 10,070,000 bushels (290 million pounds) a year ago. The harvest is the largest in 3 years.

Spain produced an average of 14,558,000 bushels (425 million pounds) from 1930 to 1934, and exported 70 million pounds. The average yield was 124 bushels per acre, but because of fertilizer shortages, the yield per acre in recent years has been less than before the Civil War.

MALAYA INCREASES RICE ACREAGE

An increase of 55,000 acres in the rice acreage of the Malayan Union is estimated during the 1947-48 season. The acreage is unofficially forecast at 869,000 acres compared with the official estimates of 813,000 in the preceding year and 746,000 acres in the prewar (1935-36/39-40) average period. The main crop is planted in August and September.

Given normal weather conditions, the harvest may be 20 percent larger than that of a year earlier. Such a crop would amount to 23,880,000 bushels (750 million pounds milled) compared with 19,900,000 bushels (630 million pounds) last year, and with the prewar of 27,100,000 bushels (850 million pounds). Although the rice area is larger than before the war, the yield is less, because much of the acreage increase is on unirrigated land.

TURKEY'S RICE HAR- VEST SHOWS GAIN

The 1947 rice harvest of Turkey is forecast at 3,138,000 bushels (92 million pounds milled), a slight gain over 3,052,000 bushels (89 million pounds) a year ago. All the crop is consumed within the country, and is normally about sufficient for domestic needs. The carry-over from the 1946 production is considered ample to prevent an unusual price rise before the marketing of the current harvest.

(Continued on Page 30.)

FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND NUTS

EXPORTS OF CUBAN GRAPEFRUIT AND AVOCADOS TO UNITED STATES

Exports of Cuban (Isle of Pines) grapefruit and of avocados to the United States in 1947 have failed to reach the levels expected by the exporters earlier in the season.

Grapefruit exports totaled 61,600 boxes (80 pounds), 48 percent more than the 41,700 boxes exported to the United States in 1946 but 35 percent below the 1939-41 average of 95,000 boxes. Isle of Pines grapefruit are exported to the United States markets mostly during the months of August and September.

Avocado exports from Cuba to United States markets, which move during the four-month period, June-September, totaled 3,697,000 pounds, 39 percent less than the 1946 total of 6,077,000 pounds and 67 percent below the 1939-41 average of 11,262,000 pounds. The substantial decline in the movement of Cuban avocados to the United States markets appears to result from the higher costs of production in Cuba, the good demand for the fruit in

Cuba and failure of the Cubans to keep pace with the avocado producers in the United States with respect to varieties and in the preparation and marketing of the fruit.

JULY-AUGUST ORANGE EXPORTS EXCEED MILLION BOXES

Exports of United States oranges and tangerines totaled 1,338,000 boxes for the two-month period, July and August 1947.

Canada, as usual was the leading market for the orange and tangerine exports and 875,000 boxes or 65 percent of the total were destined for that country.

Belgium and Luxembourg ranked second as a market with 258,000 boxes. Other countries and ports of destination with quantities in boxes were as follows: Hong Kong 78,000, Republic of the Philippines 51,000, Netherlands 39,000, Mexico 18,000, Switzerland 8,000, Newfoundland and Labrador 5,000, Curacao (N.W.I.) 2,000 and Bermuda, Panama Canal Zone and Bahamas about 1,000 boxes each.

The remaining exports consisted of small shipments to Saudi Arabia, Iceland, Venezuela, Sweden, China, and Japan.

WORLD COFFEE PRODUCTION (Continued from Page 290)

Africa. Although the 1947-48 forecast of coffee production in Africa is slightly lower than the previous year's crop, the general trend in production is upward. The outturn in Angola and French West Africa is nearly three times the prewar production. British East Africa and the Belgian Congo also show substantial increases. Madagascar's 1947-48 production is expected to drop below the previous year because of labor difficulties. African countries are finding ready markets for their coffee in Europe on account of dollar shortages and preferential duties given colonial produce.

Asia. Only fragmentary information is available on the status of the coffee industry in the Netherlands Indies, formerly the most important Asiatic producer. Officially reported exports of coffee during 1946 from the islands amounted to only 26,000 bags. The principal coffee-producing areas of Java, which accounted for 40 percent of the prewar output, now have been reoccupied by the Dutch, but it is not expected that the 1947-48 production will be significant.

India's 1947-48 crop is forecast at 275,000 bags, or 50,000 bags below last year. The exportable production is expected to be negligible since domestic consumption appears to be continuing at the high wartime rate.

This is one of the series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural prospects approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crops and Livestock Statistics. For this report the committee was composed of C. M. Purves, Acting Chairman, Helen B. Whitmore, and Constance H. Farnworth.

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

(Continued from Page 298)

CANADA REMOVES COARSE
GRAIN PRICE CEILINGS

The Canadian Government removed price ceilings on barley, oats, and screenings as of midnight October 21. Export restrictions are to continue, however. (See Foreign Crops and Markets, September 29, 1947).

Trading in oats and barley on the Winnipeg Grain Exchange was resumed on October 23, the first time since September 1943. No fluctuation limits are to be set until the market has had a chance to adjust itself, according to an announcement by the president of the Grain Exchange.

Prices opened considerably higher than the former ceiling of 64 3/4 cents for oats and 93 cents for barley, on the first day of trading. Closing quotations, though somewhat lower than the opening level, were still well above former ceilings.

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTSCANADA RELAXES REGULATIONS
AFFECTING LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY

The Canadian Government recently announced the removal of price ceilings on meat and meat products (except animal fats) and subsidies on grains used for livestock feeding, effective October 22. All slaughter control regulations were also revoked and all processing or other service charges relating to any of the decontrol items were suspended by the same announcement.

Because of shortages of feed grain in Canada and to assure fulfillment of Canada's overseas commitment, the policy of allowing no exports of oats and barley will be continued during the current crop year. The feed grain freight assistance policy to eastern feeders will continue until July 31, 1948.

FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND NUTS

(Continued from Page 299)

BRITISH COLUMBIA SHIPS 811 CARS OF
APPLES TO UNITED STATES

Shipments of British Columbia apples destined for United States markets totaled 811 cars, or 648,800 boxes for the 1947-48 season through October 24. By variety, the shipments were divided as follows: McIntosh 313, cars, Delicious (including the red strains) 248, Jonathan 214, Wealthy 21 and others, including some mixed cars, 15.

Illinois was the destination of 207 cars, the largest total for any of the 33 States which are receiving these shipments. Other States to which

10 or more cars have been shipped are as follows: Wisconsin 112, Minnesota 58, Michigan 52, Texas 46, Missouri 37, Iowa 37, New York 30, Massachusetts 27, Florida 19, Pennsylvania 19, Kansas 15, Alabama 14, Indiana, Ohio, Tennessee and South Carolina 13 each, Kentucky 12 and North Dakota 11 cars.

Of the total of 811 cars, 320 cars were shipped during the period October 11-24 and consisted of 157 cars of Delicious, 110 Jonathans, 43 McIntosh and 10 other or mixed, mostly Winter Banana and Grimes.

COTTON

COTTON-PRICE QUOTATIONS ON FOREIGN MARKETS

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on foreign markets, converted at current rates of exchange:

COTTON: Spot prices of certain foreign growths
and qualities in specific markets

Market location, kind, and quality	Date: 1947:	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in: foreign currency	Equivalent U.S. cents per pound
Alexandria		Kantar			
Ashmouni, Good.....	10-23	99.05 lbs.	Tallari	40.50	33.79
Ashmouni, F.G.F.....	"	"	"	38.50	32.12
Giza 7, Good.....	"	"	"	44.75	37.34
Giza 7, F.G.F.....	"	"	"	(not quoted)	
Karnak, Good.....	"	"	"	47.25	39.42
Karnak, F.G.F.....	"	"	"	44.00	36.71
Bombay		Candy			
Jarila, Fine.....	"	784 lbs.	Rupee	432.00	16.62
Broach, Fine.....	"	"	"	546.00	21.01
Sind American, Fine.....	"	"	"	556.00	21.39
Punjab " 289-F, Fine	"	"	"	666.00	25.62
Kampala, East African....	"	"	"	920.00	35.40
Buenos Aires		Metric ton			
Type B.....	10-24	2204.6 lbs.	Peso	2,590.00	34.98
Lima		Sp. quintal			
Tanguis, Type 5.....	10-23	101.4 lbs.	Sol	160.00	24.27
Pima, Type 1.....	"	"	"	193.00	29.28
Recife		Arroba			
Mata, Type 5.....	10-24	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	110.00	18.10
Sertao, Type 5.....	"	"	"	120.00	19.74
Sao Paulo					
Sao Paulo, Type 5.....	"	"	"	158.50	26.08
Torreón		Sp. quintal			
Middling, 15/16".....	"	101.4 lbs.	Peso	125.00	25.36

Compiled from weekly cables from representatives abroad.

FATS AND OILS**MALAYAN COPRA INDUSTRY
EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS**

Malayan commercial copra production during January-August amounted to 130,000 short tons, 87 percent of the 150,000 tons forecast for the 12 months of 1947. Production is increasing monthly, and the August output of 18,600 tons was the largest since the industry was resumed in October 1946. Should production continue at this rate, the total may exceed 200,000, comparing favorably with the prewar annual average of 225,000 tons.

Copra crushing has averaged approximately the same as production, since exports were less than 4,500 tons. The rate of extraction, however, is considerably smaller than the world rate of 63 percent, and has, in turn, reduced coconut oil production.

The 4,500 tons of copra exported in the first eight months of this year were insignificant compared with 215,000 tons that left the country during 1935-39. Practically all of the copra as well as 64 percent of the coconut oil shipments went to the United Kingdom. Other European countries received small quantities, and 17 percent of the oil went to Burma.

It is possible that the copra imports, especially from the Netherlands Indies, were for trans-shipment through the Port of Singapore.

MALAYA: Copra and coconut oil exports and imports,
January-August 1947 with comparisons.

Destination	Copra			Coconut Oil		
	July -		January -	July -		January
	Average	Dec.	August.	Average	Dec.	August
	1935-39	1946	1947	1935-39	1946	1947
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Exports:						
United Kingdom.....	64,680	700	4,445	9,920	1,259	18,621
Other European Countries.....	132,709	---	---	2,825	---	3,371
Other British Poss.....	3,631	---	---	26,892	38	169
Burma.....	---	---	a/	4,376	1,276	4,787
Hong Kong.....	---	---	11:a/	1,558	2,009	---
Netherlands Indies.....	---	---	---	2,864	1,614	1,749
Other countries.....	13,674	---	---	4,328	103	90
Total.....	214,694	700	4,456	22,763	6,299	28,937
Imports:						
British Possessions.....	11,891	444	401	18	---	44
Netherlands Indies.....	118,160	25,727	37,012	367	63	495
Other countries.....	2,390	69	161	257	---	---
Total.....	132,441	26,240	37,574	642	63	539

Compiled from official sources. a/ 2-year average.

WORLD HOG SUMMARY (Continued from Page 292)

Europe, may be greater than the anticipated increases. Only moderate increases in supplies are likely in 1949.

Commercial slaughter in eastern, central and southern European countries are not available for the war and post-war years. However, it can generally be assumed that hog numbers, marketings and slaughterings have been increasing in most of these countries. Many of these countries are reported to have had good corn crops, and plans for at least some of the countries call for a progressive increase in production for the next several years. Commercial slaughter data in Norway, Belgium and Netherlands for the 1945-1947 period overemphasize the decline in hog slaughterings. A much larger proportion of slaughter in these countries is not being inspected in post-war years; in fact, the number of such hogs slaughtered on farms and not inspected may be above prewar.

Inspected hog slaughter in the United States, according to preliminary data, continues its upward trend through 1947. Inspected slaughter is expected to show an increase of 8 percent, compared with 1946, and to be approximately 38 percent larger than prewar. Total hog slaughter in 1947, on the other hand, is expected to decline by 3 million head, or 2 percent below 1946, but will still be 31 percent above prewar. The 1947 spring pig crop was almost a million head greater than a year earlier. Although a large number of these pigs are marketed early, it is believed that the number carried over for slaughter in 1948 will be approximately equal to the number carried over into 1947 from 1946.

With the 1947 spring pig crop larger than a year earlier and the 1947 fall pig crop expected to be slightly larger than the 1946 fall crop, hog slaughter in late spring and summer of 1948 probably will be larger than for the same period in 1947. It is anticipated that the 1948 spring pig crop will be smaller than the 1947 crop because of the relatively higher prices for feed grains and reduced supplies of corn. Hogs probably will be marketed at lighter weights during the coming year, owing to the hog-corn price ratio being below the average. As a result of these changes, slaughterings in 1948, both inspected and total, are expected to decline.

Commercial hog slaughter in Canada for 1947 is expected to drop to 4,000,000 head or less. This is about one-quarter million below 1946, but is still approximately 25 percent greater than prewar. The 1947 decline occurred, notwithstanding an upward trend in hog numbers. Shortages of feed throughout the year, and more recently the prolonged packing house strike, have curtailed hog slaughter in 1947. The 1947 spring pig crop showed an increase of 10.5 percent over a year earlier and can be expected to reflect larger marketings during the last quarter of the year and throughout 1948.

Because of the seriousness of the feed situation, particularly in Ontario and Quebec, the earlier estimate of 6.9 percent increase in sows to farrow in the last half of 1947 may be expected to be reduced. Nevertheless, some increase is anticipated in all provinces except in Saskatchewan. Although the

strike and feed shortage may reduce the number of farrowings next spring, the larger number of hogs on farms indicates that 1948 marketings may approximate 4,500,000 head.

Because of the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in Mexico the latter part of 1946, hog marketings in 1947 increased and slaughterings reflect an increase of approximately 100,000 head above last year. Inspected slaughter in 1947 is more than one-third larger than that of prewar. Early in the eradication campaign, the demand for pork increased and some farmers disposed of hogs for fear of foot-and-mouth infection. This, apparently, was a temporary situation. Hog marketings in 1948 are likely to continue near the 1947 level.

In 1947, commercial hog slaughter in Cuba shows an increase of 12 percent above that of last year. Hog production was encouraged by a more plentiful supply of feed at lower cost (palmiche nuts from the Cuban Royal Palm tree) and removal of ceiling prices on pork and pork products. These factors, together with the retention of controls on beef, are expected to maintain the 1947 slaughter level through 1948.

Reduced hog marketings in the United Kingdom in 1947 have resulted in slaughterings dropping about 30 percent below a year earlier, and are now only about 18 percent of prewar. Shortage of feed grains, both domestic and exported, and rationing of feeds during 1946 and 1947 have led to progressive decreases in the number of breeding animals and to lower hog numbers. Although the United Kingdom's plans for expansion of agricultural output call for some liberalization in rations fed to hogs, it is believed that the country's present feed position will not permit of any recovery of hog numbers in 1948 and that slaughter in all probability will remain close to the 1947 level.

In 1947, commercial hog slaughter in Eire increased approximately 2 percent over a year ago, but is still only slightly more than one-third of prewar slaughter. However, the shortage of necessary feed supplies has led to some decrease in hog numbers in 1947. As a result, some decline in hog slaughter may be anticipated during 1948.

In Denmark, hog slaughter for export in 1947 is believed to have dropped slightly below 1946, and is now less than one-half of prewar numbers. A decrease in the number of bred sows and the critical feed situation indicate a further decline in hog numbers and marketings next spring. This probably will tend to hold 1948 slaughter to present levels or even reduce it below 1947. Recovery in hog slaughter in the post-war period has been delayed particularly by the relatively low quantities of both imported and domestic feed available, shortage of agricultural labor, and unfavorable relations between costs and prices.

An unprecedented drought this summer in the important agricultural area of eastern Norway, resulting in a reduction of 30 to 50 percent in grain yields, is likely to hold controlled hog slaughter for 1947 at the low level of recent years. During the occupation, controlled hog slaughter declined drastically and a very high percentage of the hogs went into home slaughter

channels. This apparently is still the case and partially accounts for the small number going into controlled slaughter in more recent years. Government policy to conserve grains for dairy cattle feeding is likely to affect controlled slaughter numbers in 1948.

Although commercial hog slaughter in Sweden for 1947 showed a moderate increase over 1946, it is still about 25 percent under prewar. If the domestic feed position permits, it can be expected that the 1947 increase in hog numbers, sows, farrowings and recently indicated higher prices will reflect larger commercial slaughter within the next few years.

Total official hog slaughter in Netherlands for 1947 is 18 percent larger than a year earlier, but is only about one-half of prewar. At the present time commercial slaughter makes up nearly one-half of the hog slaughter and the remainder of the slaughter is made up by the self-suppliers and home users. Shortage of feed grains in 1946 was primarily the cause of an 18 percent reduction in hog numbers and a continuance of short feed supplies through 1947 will most likely be reflected in a somewhat lower slaughter in 1948.

Although total hog slaughter in Belgium in 1947 is likely to be somewhat larger than in 1946, it is only about one-third of prewar. The shortage of feed in 1947 is reported to have caused a 25 percent drop in hog numbers and a sharp decline in the number of breeding sows. Sharp rises in prices for young pigs indicate that Belgian farmers are attempting to build up pig numbers. Such efforts, however, will not be reflected in next year's slaughter before late in 1948 and throughout 1949.

Hogs slaughtered in abattoirs in the Union of South Africa during 1947 showed a slight increase over 1946 and are now more than double that of prewar. Expansion of pig production is being encouraged because of an improved feed position and the need for supplementing the meat supply of the country. Prices of certain grades of pigs have been increased for the 1947-48 season.

Commercial hog slaughter in Argentina for 1947 will be considerably below the 1946 level and in all probability will be the lowest in 5 years. Slaughterings for the first 3 quarters of 1947 were relatively light, but reopening of one of the larger packing plants toward the end of the year indicates an increase in the slaughter rate. The 1947 hog slaughter is expected to be about 35 percent greater than prewar. Recent reports indicate that an upward trend in hog production now appears evident and a 25 percent increase in hog slaughter can be anticipated by March or April 1948.

Present favorable hog-corn-price relationships have led to only moderate expansion among some of the big producers. Scarcity of dependable ranch labor at suitable wages is primarily responsible for the larger producers not expanding on a more extensive scale. Smaller producers, on the other hand, appear to be increasing herds as rapidly as a limited number of breeding animals permit. Although data concerning breeding intentions are not available, spring and fall pig crops probably will be larger than in the preceding year.

Because of an abundance of corn, hogs are being fed to heavier weights, in some instances up to 20 percent greater than last year's weights. If Argentina's next corn crop is not a failure, it is held possible that the rate of marketings may again reach the average level of 1945 by the end of 1948.

Inspected hog slaughter in Brazil for 1947 is estimated at 3,750,000 head, or three-quarters of a million below 1946. This is likely to be the lowest inspected slaughter in 6 years. Hog cholera made its appearance in the principal producing regions of Rio Grande do Sul, Parana, and Sao Paulo in 1946, and heavy losses from the disease occurred in 1947. The major losses, however, were sustained after the peak of the 1946 marketing season and the effects are now reflected in a reduction in the 1947 hog slaughter. Many producers, according to reports, have discontinued pork production since the infestation and immediate widespread recovery is not expected.

Shortage of feed grains and concentrates in Australia during 1946 and previous years was a primary factor in the continuance of the downward trend in commercial hog slaughter in 1947. However, because of better seasonal conditions and increased feed supplies in 1947, it is considered probable that an increase in hog slaughter may be expected in 1948.

Commercial hog slaughter in New Zealand for 1947 continued the downward trend begun in 1944, and present slaughter is now only about two-thirds of the prewar level. Limited feed supplies and high production costs were factors influencing the downward trend. However, as a result of a moderately improved feed situation, hog numbers and breedings are believed to have increased in 1947, and an increase in slaughter in 1948 appears probable. This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural prospects approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crops and Livestock Statistics. For this report, the committee was composed of C.M. Purves, Acting Chairman, Elmer A. Reese, Hazel Kefauver, Lois B. Bacon and Montell E. Ogdon.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

URUGUAY BUYS WHEAT FROM ARGENTINA

Uruguayan negotiations with Argentina for the purchase of wheat to cover this year's deficit have just been concluded. The Argentine Government has agreed to sell Uruguay up to 55,000 metric tons of wheat at a maximum price of 49.70 Argentine pesos per 100 kg. (\$4.03 U.S. per bushel), f.o.b. an Argentine port. Argentina reserves the right to buy, at the rate of 45 pesos, (\$3.65 per bushel) c.i.f. at an Argentine port, an equal amount of wheat from Uruguay's exportable surplus of next year, if any. If Uruguay is unable to supply the required quantity, the contract provides that it will then become liable to payment of a premium of 15.90 pesos per 100 kg. (\$1.29 per bushel) on the wheat "borrowed" from Argentina. The Uruguayan Cabinet has announced that only about 16,000 metric tons of imported wheat will be needed this year, largely because of the Government's recent action in requisitioning stocks of wheat and banning the exportation of flour.